NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

Pursuant to one or more of the following Arkansas Codes, 20-76-201(13), 20-10-211(a), 20-10-203(b), 20-76-433, 20-77-102, 20-77-603, 25-10-129, the Director of the Division of Medical Services hereby issues the following proposed changes in the Medical Assistance Program under Title XIX of the Social Security Act:

Effective November 1, 2003, the Division of Medical Services proposes clarifications of the following Occupational, Physical, Speech Therapy Medicaid Program policy as a result of provider inquiries:

- Interpretation of the retrospective review guidelines in regard to progress notes and signatures.
- Occupational, Physical and Speech therapy services benefit limits and billing of service units.
- Primary care physician (PCP) referral for initial evaluation for therapy services and referral
 and prescription for continuing therapy. Instructions for completion of the DMS-640 have
 been developed for the PCP's use when making referrals or writing prescriptions for
 therapy treatment.
- PCP referrals for therapy services provided by school districts.
- Medicaid acceptance of electronic signatures in compliance with Arkansas Code 25-31-103.

The proposed Arkansas Medicaid State Plan Amendment to providers is available for review at the Division of Medical Services, Program Planning and Development, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access it on the Medicaid website (www.medicaid.state.ar.us), and download it from the "Proposed Rules For Public Comment" section of the website's *General* menu. Policy accessed from this location will be watermarked with the word "Proposed". All comments must be submitted in writing no later than September 16, 2003.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 682-6789 or 1-877-708-8191. Both telephone numbers are voice and TDD.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin.

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Roy Jeffus, Interim Director Division of Medical Services

Date: August 18 – August 20, 2003